

Kelowna Buddhist Temple

The New Dharma Express



PO. Box 22092, RPO Capri Centre Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 9N9 phone 250-763-3827
www.kelownabuddhisttemple.org

Special points of interest:

- Wed. April 3, Deadline for Chow Mein orders 8pm
- Thurs. April 4, Chow Mein Prep 6-9pm
- Fri. Apr 5, Chow Mein Prep 6-9pm
- Sat. April 6, chow Mein Prep 8am
- Sun. April 7, Chow Mein Prep 8am, Sales 1-3:30pm
- Thurs. April 11, Temple Exec Meeting 7pm
- Sat. April 13, Temple Yard Clean-up 8am
- Sun. April 14, Hanamatsuri 2:30pm
- Sun. April 21, Dharma School 10am
- Tues. April 23, Intro to Buddhism 7pm

Monthly Memorial

APRIL

- Miss Hanayo Ueda
- Mr. Masajiro Taniguchi
- Mr. Jusaku Yoshihara
- Mr. Shojiro Kimura
- Mrs. Tora Shiosaki
- Mr. Masakichi Nishi
- Mr. Shinichi Nakayama
- Mrs. Taka Tsuji
- Mrs. Tomechiyo Teramura
- Mr. George Nishi
- Miss Tsuyuko Nakayama
- Mr. Shigeharu Nishi
- Mr. Genzaburo Tamagi
- Mr. Yoshitaro Kitagawa
- Mr. Shigeto Kimura
- Mrs. Ume Tatebe
- Mrs. Setsuyo Tashima
- Mr. Yoshitaka Wada
- Mr. Carl Nishi
- Mr. Doug Mori
- Mr. Atsushi Sugimoto

Special points of interest:

- Sun. April 28, Dharma School 10am, Dharma Shotsuki 1pm
- Tues. April 30, Intro To Buddhism 7pm

Clean-up Altar Toban

Group #4
M/M Herb Tanaka
M/M Gord Lacey
M/M Jack Hatanaka
M/M Nob Yamaoka
M/M Sam Sugie
M/M Manabu Azama
M/M Jay Hunter
M/M Don Favell
M/M Joe Uyeyama
Mrs. Toyoko Tamaki
Mr. Luke Mitton
Mrs. Dot Wakano
Mrs. Joan Kitaura
Mr. Paul Merckx
M/M Mark Gilbert

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Introduction to Buddhism

Tuesday's beginning—April 23 to June 25—7-9pm
 All Sessions at the Kelowna Buddhist Temple
 Space is limited, only a few spots left—act now!
 Email: kbtemple@telus.net or call
 250-763-3827 leave message

From Sensei: The Pure Land Path

*It is difficult to meet true teachers
And difficult for them to instruct.
It is difficult to hear the teaching well,
And more difficult still to accept it.*
(Shinran Shonin)

Hearing and listening to the Dharma is an important aspect of Pure Land teaching. Traditional monastic Buddhism, sometimes referred to as the Path of Sages, requires the person to renunciate all family and worldly ties, and follow with commitment the many precepts and meditative practices of a monastic existence. By contrast, the Pure Land path is more focused on Buddhism for the common people. This is the path for the ordinary person, regardless of status. It is for the person who works to make a living, works to raise a family, deals with life's constant demands, in other words, it is for people like you and me. It makes no excessive demands, physical or otherwise, on its followers, other than the giving up of the *ego-self*. Becoming free from the *ego-self* so that the true and real self can emerge is not easy. However, this can come about through the workings of Amida's compassion.

The Pure Land tradition is a religion of *hearing-wisdom*, and emphasis is placed on hearing the Dharma. Hearing and listening to the Dharma is a means through which we can receive *shinjin*- the entrusting heart.

Pure Land teachings describe how we are embraced by the power of Amida Buddha's Primal vow. By entrusting in this Vow, and completely accepting the compassion of Amida, we are enabled to live our lives with confidence and peace of mind, reassured that we will be born into the Pure Land, and attain enlightenment.

A hurdle for each of us is the awakening to Amida's compassion. Only by awakening to Amida's compassion can we nullify the ego-self and transform it into its opposite. However, we have been so accustomed to rely on those things that are tangible- our knowledge, or those things that we can physically see, hear, taste, smell, feel and hear. Those things which are relatively *intangible* are more difficult for us to accept. Amida's compassion is a relatively intangible concept to us, and this creates a kind of barrier for us. For centuries we have been taught to rely on knowledge, and those things that we directly experience

through our senses,- such as like seeing, hearing, feeling, touching. We are used to looking to science to provide us with the answers to everything. But the realm of Amida's compassion is not based on the world of science and knowledge

Also, Amida's compassion does not conflict with knowledge. Instead, it is a unifying power that transcends knowledge

When we no longer cling to our realms of thought and knowledge, we can simply open ourselves up to the truth- to allow the development of the entrusting heart. Our spiritual life goes beyond our world of science, thought, and knowledge. Amida Buddha takes us to the spiritual world, once we entrust ourselves to him.

There is a story about a Zen master, which shows some of the limitations of our attachment to thought and knowledge. An eminent Zen master was approached by a knowledgeable scientist and philosopher who asked for an opportunity to meet with him to discuss his teachings. In introducing himself to the master, the scientist said "I understand much of the physical laws of the universe and the way of things, but there may be something you could add. Can you please teach me?" The master invited him to sit and offered him tea. Immediately the scientist began trying to impress the master with his great wealth of knowledge. The master was pouring tea into the scientist's cup, nodding politely. However, he continued to pour the tea into the cup, and it began spilling over. Looking somewhat alarmed, the scientist exclaimed "Master! there's too much here, it's too full" The master, nodded his head and quietly, replied, "That is right--- like the cup, your mind is too full of thoughts and ideas- there is no room, it's too full. You need to empty your cup and come again for the teaching. Perhaps by then you will have room to receive it"

In our own lives, our cups are often too full. We often feel that we know so much. Sometimes, like the scientist- our minds are too full. We need to empty our cups to listen and hear the dharma and become awakened to the compassion of Amida Buddha. As Rennyō Shonin said "In understanding the Buddha Dharma, hearing is everything". Let us humbly listen to the Dharma.

In Gassho, Rev. Y. Miyakawa

From the Temple Executive

Our Temple sadly lost another pioneer member when Albert Tainaka passed away on March 5th. For countless years Albert worked tirelessly during the construction of the Temple, the organization of YABA and assuming the responsibility of looking after the Naijin. We extend our deepest sympathy to the Tainaka family. Albert will be sorely missed. The month of March has not been as busy at the Temple as in past years, but April will be very eventful. Our spring Chow Mein sale will be on Sunday, April 7. Preparation of the chow mein, gyoza and sushi will occur on Thursday and Friday, April 4 & 5 starting at 6:00 pm, all day Saturday starting at 8:00 am and Sunday also starting at 8:00 am. This is a huge undertaking which is critical to the financial viability of the Temple. We can use everyone's help to make this a successful event. See you there! Saturday morning, April 13th at 8:00 am is our spring yard clean up. We can use all the help we can get. Please come out and give us a hand and enjoy a delicious breakfast! The following day, April 14th is Hanamatsuri. The Dharma School students will again be visiting Temple members at various health care facilities, continuing a

long standing Hanamatsuri tradition. Come out and celebrate the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha at 2:30 pm at the beautifully decorated Temple.

The "Introduction to Buddhism" course will commence on April 23rd. I understand this extremely popular and informative program may have been fully filled. However, if you are interested in attending, please contact Michael Martin in case there are spots still open.

The Temple is a bee hive of activity – come out and enjoy the company of the many friendly people, take advantage of the many programs being offered by Miyakawa Sensei and devoted Temple members and come out to help at our various fund raising activities and work parties. We look forward to seeing you! In Gassho, Derek



Message from the Editor

Did I ever mention that I love to snow board? The other week, I was up at Big White with my Dharma friend Barb. I had a terrific day, it was just after a snow fall and we were able to find places that had untouched powder... Something rather sought after, Barb mentioned that she could hear me hooting with happiness as we blazed down several runs. We went places that I had never been and it was just a fun day. There was a moment in time knee deep in powder, that if I could freeze it, much like a fast shutter

speed in a camera... Freeze it, can it and market it, I would be a millionaire. I guess I am rich to have experienced this and wouldn't it be nice to share these moments of time. I doubt that anyone would think that chow mein prep was an adrenalin experience, but still another great moment in time to share with Sangha and friends. Please make every effort to participate and support in this huge project.

In Gassho, jiro

Buddhism of the Heart

In the Pure Land, all beings are reconciled. Amida's light embraces everyone unconditionally and brings them all to the Pure Land, whether or not they are currently Buddhist. Ultimately everyone gets there...liberated from their foolish ignorance and painful egocentricity, as long as we can keep that in mind, we can hope to agitate for change while not losing sight of the inner togetherness that we share with everyone.

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	2	3 <i>Deadline for Chow Mein orders 8pm</i>	4 <i>Chow Mein Prep 6-9pm</i>	5 <i>Chow Mein Prep 6-9pm</i>	6 <i>Chow Mein Prep 8am</i>
7 <i>Chow Mein Prep 8am, Sales 1-3:30pm</i>	8 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	9	10	11 <i>Temple Executive Meeting 7pm</i>	12 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	13 <i>Temple Yard Clean-up 8am</i>
14 <i>Hanamatsuri 2:30pm</i>	15 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	20 <i>Jerry Takeda—Lawn Mowing</i>
21 <i>Dharma School 10am</i>	22 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	23 <i>Intro to Buddhism 7pm</i>	24	25	26 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	27 <i>Alan Yamaoka, Lawn Mowing</i>
28 <i>Dharma School 10am, Dharma Shotsuki 1pm</i>	29 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	30 <i>Intro to Buddhism 7pm</i>				

Just Rambling

It was a hot dry summer in 1940. I got a job working for a Japanese farmer who owned 30 acres of land on the north side of HWY 97, later on the site of the Western Star plant and other commercial businesses. Mr. and Mrs. Ebihara grew asparagus, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, lettuce, cabbage, cantaloupes, watermelons and other vegetables that thrived in the warmest area of Kelowna. The sunny slopes of Dilworth Mountain created the balmy effect. It was just prior to the second world war and sales and prices were good. The first question I was asked was if I could drive the 1931 Chev truck around the farm to load up the produce. My reply was a hasty affirmative. My only driving experience up to that time was sitting as a passenger and watching other drivers drive. Somehow I managed to get the truck moving and the boss seemed quite happy. I was still 17 years old and wasn't quite old enough to get a driver's license. I don't think the boss was a very good driver either but in those days he got by because there was so little traffic on the roads. In my opinion, Mr. Ebihara was probably one of the most successful vegetable farmers in Kelowna. By watching him closely, I realized how his farming methods were different from those of the average grower. The first thing that I noticed was that he was very fussy about the farm tools being clean at the end of the day. Sleeping quarters and food was provided for the employees. The owner and his wife would do the cooking together and they had a reputation for being two of the best cooks in Kelowna. The meals were always delicious. The workers were mainly bachelors of Japanese origin, all with good work ethics. The wages were somewhat higher than the average being paid. Mr. Ebihara maintained that one of his greatest assets were good, hard workers.

In the fall of 1940, with the owners becoming of retiring age, the farm was sold and the childless couple returned to Japan to retire. The farm was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Cobyace {sic}. They operated the farm for several years until it was sold for development.

Ten years ago, I was visiting my family in Kitimat when I read about the Okanagan Mountain fire on Castanet. Although the fire was at least 3 km from our home, my main concern was that some live, red hot embers were being blown by the wind and apparently landing close to the farm fuel tanks. I rushed home ASAP. It was a grim reminder of the Yamaoka fire in the early 1950's when one of their houses caught on fire and it spread to the farm gas tank which exploded destroying the main house. The fiery inferno then spread up the hillside and up the mountain to start a forest fire which burned for days.

This month we lost another prominent member with the passing of Mr. Hideo Albert Tainaka. I will remember him as being very active for many years as a Naijin taking care of the Altar. For decades, Albert supplied the Otera's farmer's market with large amounts of Japanese and other vegetables.

At this time I would like to extend my most sincere sympathies to the Tainaka Family.

In Gassho

Suey

Spring Chow Mein Sale

Sunday April 7, 2013, pick-up between 1pm and 3:30pm

Email: kbtchowmein@gmail.com or phone 250-860-2980 or 250-762-2653

Chow Mein (\$7.50 per order) Fresh Frozen Apple Pie's may be available at the time of sale, no pre-orders (only \$8 each). Also available.. Pork Gyoza (\$3.50 per order), Ageh Sushi and California Rolls (\$5 per order).

Attn: Members/Friends, with only 2 days of preparation, we need your help! Please make every effort to be available Thursday and Friday night (April 4th & 5th) for Preparation tasks as cooking will start first thing on Saturday morning and continue until Sunday Sales (no prep of Wednesday night)!

This is the BIG ONE!

Kids' Sangha



This is an article especially for the Dharma School kids and their families.

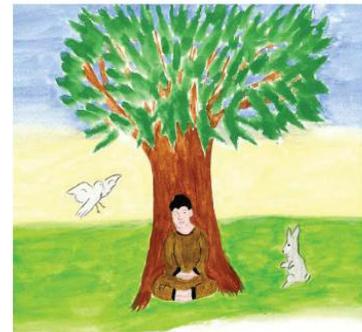
Our blessed Master, Sakyamuni Buddha, left us a great gift for our lives: His teaching about the Eightfold Path. This teaching is very important because it tells us the steps that lead us to peace and well-being. The eighth step in the Eightfold Path is Right Meditation.

When you think of a person meditating, what do you see in your mind? Do you or someone in your family meditate? You might have learned that when people meditate, they sit quietly and concentrate on the Nembutsu. This is a helpful practice for cultivating a quiet and happy mind and gentle emotions. Another name for the eighth step of the Eightfold Path is “Right Concentration”, so we can see that concentrating is part of what this teaching encourages us to do. What do we concentrate on? Our Jodo Shinshu Shogyo (the book we use for Temple services) tells us that we “concentrate our will on the Buddha, His Life, and His Teaching”. Our *will* is the thought, energy, desire, and purpose that drives our efforts. We have the will to live, for instance...this is a powerful force within us that can help us survive when the chips are down. Our will is the fuel, our efforts are the engine. If there is no fuel in the engine, it stops. If the wrong kind of fuel is in the engine, it will run poorly. If we put the right fuel into the engine, it works well and we reach our destination. To concentrate our will means that we put the “right fuel”, that same powerful energy that gives us the will to live, into understanding who Sakyamuni Buddha was, how He lived, and what he taught. We then let our lives reflect that understanding by how we treat ourselves and the world around us.

One of the ways we learn about the Buddha’s life and teaching is by participating at the Temple. Soon, we will have Hanamatsuri at the Temple. During this special occasion, we remember Sakyamuni Buddha’s birth 2500 years ago. We talk about his childhood, and honor the great work he was destined to do in his life. Temple children go on a special outing together to bring beautiful fresh spring daffodils to elders who are in the hospital. These cheerful flowers and the smiling faces of the children bring joy to the elders, and help the children to understand the Buddha’s teaching. Can you and your parents think of some ways that bringing flowers to our elders might show you what the Buddha taught us?

I hope that you will join us for a lovely day on Hanamatsuri.

In Gassho,
Genevra



NAOMI ASKS



ABOUT BUDDHISM

Written by Barb MacCarl with Illustrations by Cheryl Tanaka

Dharma School is still waiting for you to pick-up your copy of “Naomi Ask” - only \$15 per copy and if you ask... I’m sure if we search for the local author and or local artist, they might be kind enough to give you a priceless signed copy. No Guarantees... but even without, a fantastic story written and illustrated by local talent!

行 事 案 内

4月	3日(水)	午後 8時	チャウメン予約締切り
	4日(木)	午後 6-9時	チャウメン準備
	5日(金)	午後 6-9時	チャウメン準備
	6日(土)	午前 8時	チャウメン準備
	7日(日)	午前 8時	チャウメン準備
		午後 1-3時半	チャウメンセール
1	1日(木)	午後 7時	仏教会役員会
1	3日(土)	午前 8時	お寺境内掃除
1	4日(日)	午後 2時半	花祭り法要
2	1日(日)	午前 10時	日曜学校
2	3日(火)	午後 7時	仏教案内
2	8日(日)	午前 10時	日曜学校
		午後 1時	4月祥月法要
3	0日(か)	午後 7時	仏教案内

まだ寒い日もありますが、春の気配を感じさせます。
春のチャウメンセール、そして花祭りと続きます。
よろしくお願ひします。

Fall Plant and Bake Sale 2013
Plan now to seed an extra
row for the Fall Plant Sale
Date has yet to be decided, but
the Project is still a go. Sales
have been going down, so
please help the Temple by plan-
ning now to support this Fund
Raising Project.
In Gassho, Temple Executive

Women's Association Report

Our sincere condolences to the family and relatives of late Albert Hideo Tainaka who passed away on March 5, 2013 at the age of 97. We have lost a pioneer member of our temple.

Spring Chow Mein Sales is a month later than usual this year. We will need more help than usual as we will be cutting vegetables on Apr. 4, Thursday and again on Friday. Saturday - cooking gyoza, making sushi and cooking chow mein from 8:00 am - 9:00 pm. The remainder of sushi and chow mein will be cooked on Sunday starting at 8:00am with sales starting at 1:00 pm. PLEASE if you have even couple of hours to spare please consider helping us out. This is one of 2 annual major fund raisers to raise funds for the operation of our temple.

Please join us in celebrating Buddha's birthday on April 14 during Hanamatsuri Service.

Deepest sympathies to David & Tammy Nishi and family on the passing of Jack Nishi on March 6, 2013 at the age of 76.

In Gassho

Temple Yard Clean-up
April 13, 8am
Bring your rakes, shovels and hoes...
plus your appetite,
Breakfast will be served!

Hanamatsuri 2013—April 14, 2:30pm
(Buddha's Birthday)
This is undoubtedly one of the most
colorful Buddhist Events of the Year,
make plans to attend, plus special
recognition of two of our senior members!
In Gassho

*With Gratitude the Temple and all of its Affiliated Organizations
Acknowledge Your Generous Contribution and Apologies
for any Errors or Omissions.*

Dharma Shotsuki

Suzuki, M/M T \$20.00
 Tomiye, Mr. Reg \$20.00
 Sugie, M/M Sam (In Memory of Father, S. Sugie) \$20.00
 Terada, Mrs. Flo (In Memory of Tatsujiro Terada) \$25.00
 Yamauchi, Kuniko (In Memory of Father) \$30.00
 Ueda, Amy \$30.00
 Tanaka, M/M Herb \$30.00
 Koga, Mrs. Carol \$30.00
 Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley (In Memory of Iye and Tom Tanemura) \$40.00
 Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley (In Memory of George Hayashi) \$40.00
 Tanemura, M/M Melvyn (In Memory of Toshio Yamaoka) \$50.00
 Brown, M/M David (In Memory of George Hayashi) \$50.00
 Favell, M/M Don (In Memory of George Hayashi) \$50.00
 Martin, Mr. Michael \$50.00
 MacCarl, M/M Kent \$50.00
 Hayashi, Mrs. Shiz (In Memory of George Hayashi) \$100.00

Memorial

Higo, Mrs. S. (In Memory of Toshio Yamaoka) \$20.00
 Ryan, M/M Larry (In Memory of Toshio Yamaoka) \$30.00
 Sakamoto, M/M Art (In Memory of Toshio Yamaoka) \$50.00
 Terada, M/M Naga (In Memory of Yosh Terada) \$50.00
 Crosbie, Ms. Linda (In Memory of Toshio Yamaoka) \$50.00
 MacCarl, M/M Kent \$50.00

Newsletter

Yamamoto, Mr. Ed \$20.00
 Ueda, Amy \$30.00
 Mayeda, Mr. Derek \$50.00
 MacCarl, M/M Kent \$50.00

Nirvana Day

Watabe - Keating \$20.00
 Delport, Jeanette \$20.00
 Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley \$20.00
 Uemoto, M/M Kaichi \$20.00
 Yamada, M/M Ken \$20.00
 Tanaka, M/M Herb \$30.00
 Martin, Mr. Michael \$50.00
 MacCarl, M/M Kent \$50.00

Membership

Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley \$150.00
 Nishi, Mrs. Tammy \$150.00

Lawn Mowing Starts up again... If you are not on the list and are able to be included in the rotation, please contact Jerry or email kbtemple@telus.net
 We are in need of
 Volunteers
 In Gassho



Recent legislation enacted by the Provincial Government restricts organizations from divulging personal information without the approval of the individuals affected. The donations generously made by Temple members and friends fall under the realm of personal information. Therefore, if you object to your donations being published in the Temple Newsletter, please let us know and we will cease doing so (Mail or Email your wish to be omitted from the published list). In Gassho, Temple Board of Directors